



# LIGHTWAVELOGIC®

*Faster by Design*

“High speed, low power, tiny modulators in a polymer PIC platform are poised to enable 800G/1.6Tbps data communications, driven in part by artificial intelligence.”

NASDAQ  
**LWLG**

PIC International Conference  
April 2024

# Safe Harbor



The information in this presentation may contain forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. You can identify these statements by use of the words "may," "will," "should," "plans," "explores," "expects," "anticipates," "continue," "estimate," "project," "intend," and similar expressions. Forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those projected or anticipated. These risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, general economic and business conditions, effects of continued geopolitical unrest and regional conflicts, competition, changes in technology and methods of marketing, delays in completing various engineering and manufacturing programs, changes in customer order patterns, changes in product mix, continued success in technological advances and delivering technological innovations, shortages in components, production delays due to performance quality issues with outsourced components, and various other factors beyond the Company's control.

A digital illustration of a server room. The room is filled with rows of server racks on both sides, receding into the distance. The floor and ceiling are dark, with glowing blue rectangular panels on the ceiling. A network of white dots connected by thin lines is overlaid on the scene, representing data flow. A thick, glowing orange ribbon-like structure curves across the middle of the image, symbolizing data transmission or a network path.

*The challenges...*

# Industry Demand Drivers



LIGHTWAVELOGIC®

## Macro-tailwinds driving adoption of next-generation components

| Switch Density   | AI, Cloud & Streaming   | Energy Usage   |
|--|---|--|
| <i>Need For Space</i>  | <i>Need For Speed</i>   | <i>Need For Green</i>  |
| Real Estate Efficiency   | Artificial Intelligence<br>Cloud Services<br>Streaming/Gaming                               | Energy Demand  |
| Space is limited in data centers and competing solutions generally require a larger footprint than EO polymers | Computing power required to train and utilize AI systems has been doubling every 2-4 months | Traffic and computing power is driving power consumption in data centers to extreme levels |

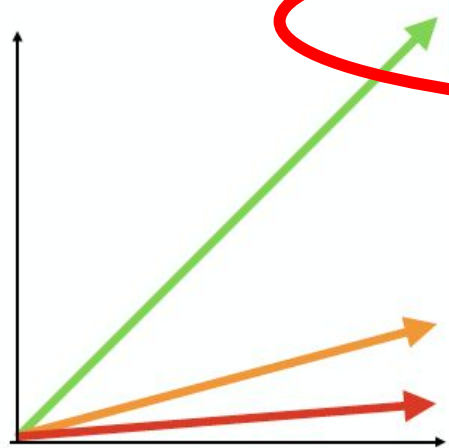
**Supporting the big macro trends today...and in the future**



# G-AI is driving the market...

ARISTA

## A 10X Gap



LLM Sizes Growing 100X / 2 Years

AI Cluster Performance 10X / 2 Years

Moore's Law 2X / 2 Years

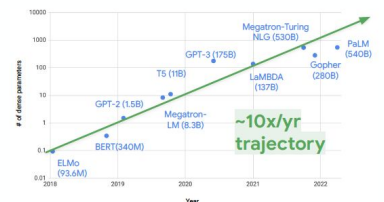
To accelerate AI we need "More than Moore"



G-AI is driving new frontiers in both computational electronics and *interconnect* photonics

ARISTA

## Generative AI Changes Everything



ChatGPT 4.0 Model Size > 1T Parameters

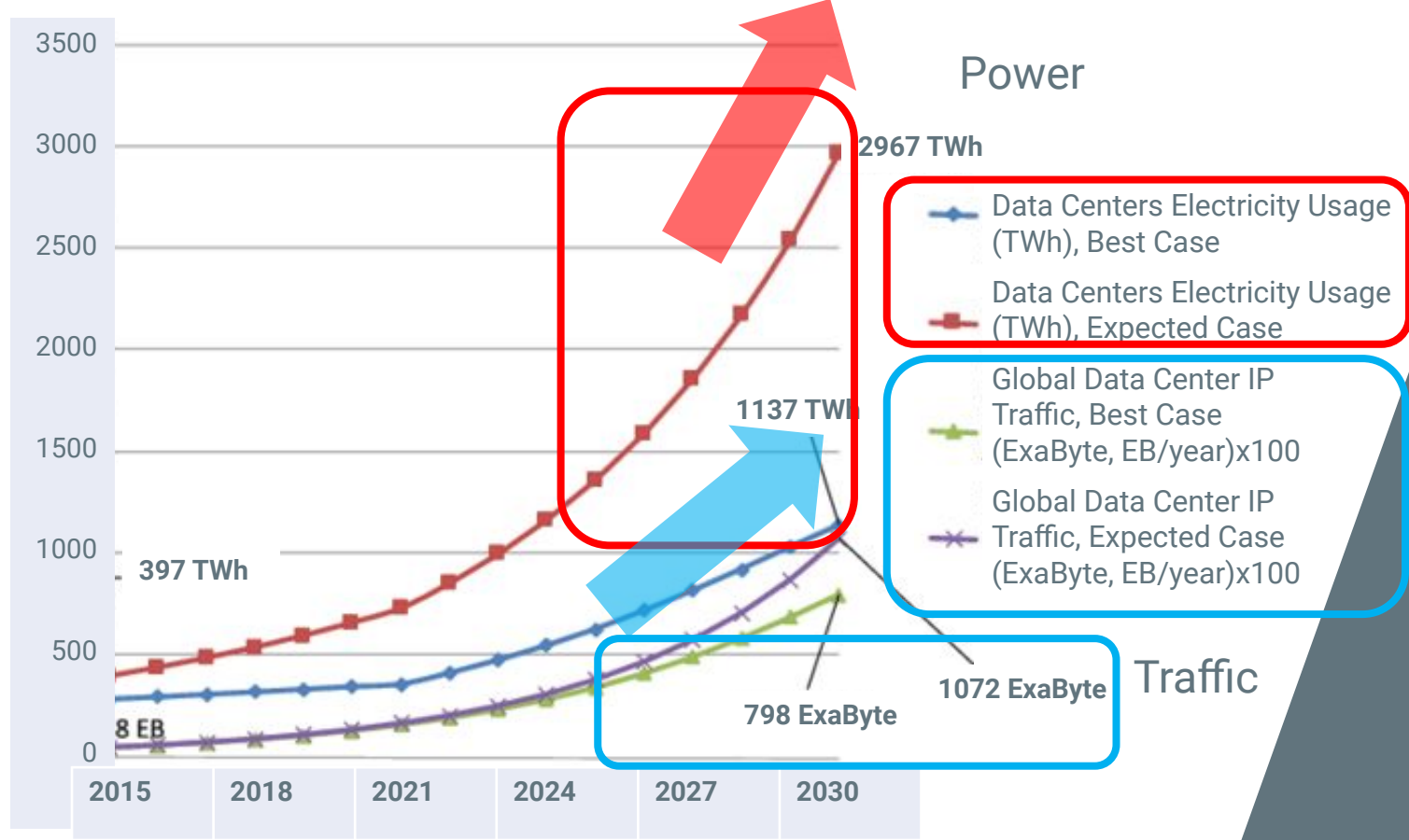
Large Language Model sizes have been increasing 10X per year

# Datacenter industry 'Achilles Heel'...



Existing solutions require excessive amounts of power to scale

Traffic ExaByte & Electricity Usage (TWh) of Data Centers 2015-2030



Data center power use is growing exponentially with increased traffic levels  *the Achilles Heel* and a major challenge for data centers, hyperscalers, and service providers

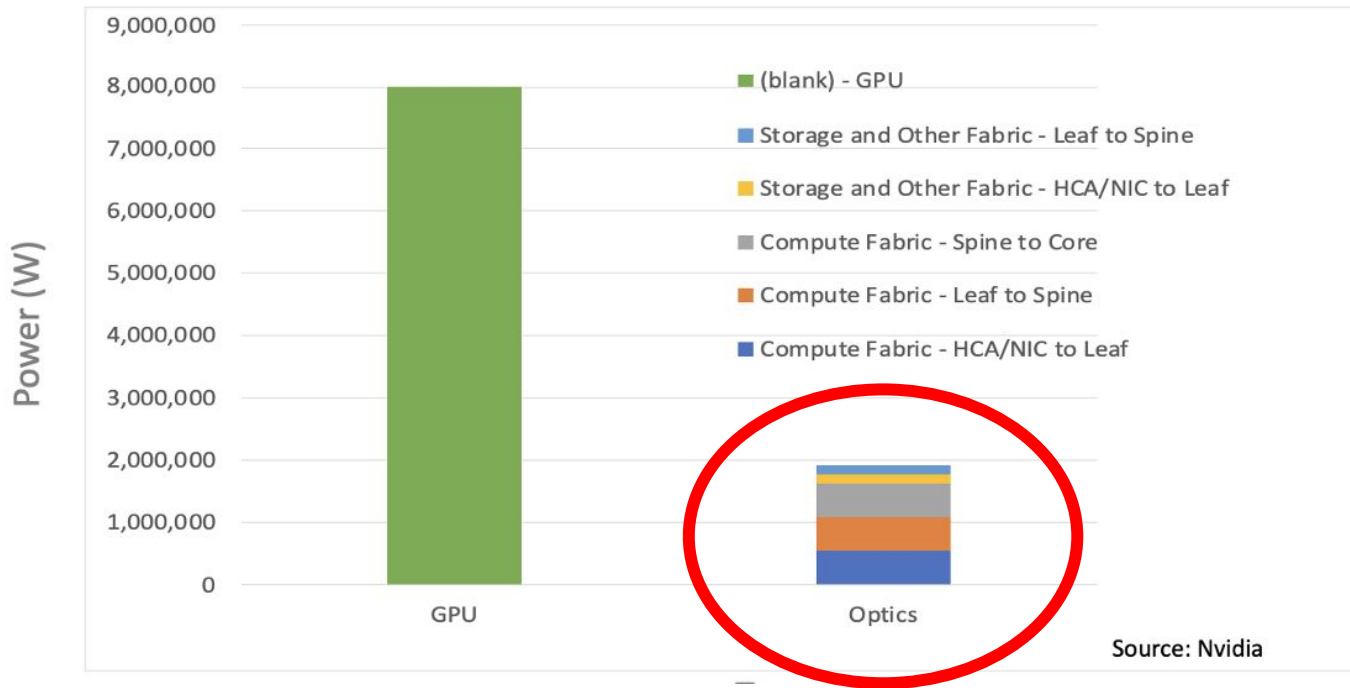
Source: Publication: Walnum, HJ et al



# Optics is No Longer A “Minor” Contributor to Datacenter G-AI Power Issues

Existing solutions require excessive amounts of power to scale

Power Dissipation for 16K GPU Clusters

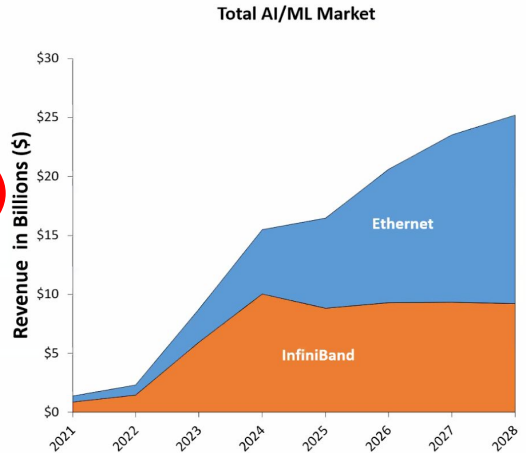
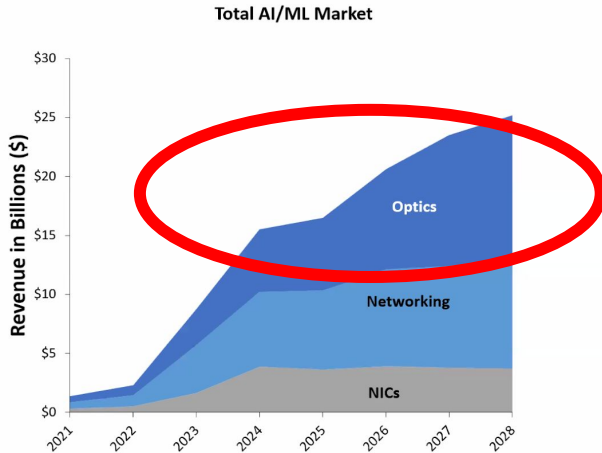


- LLM training requires *large GPU clusters*
  - ChatGPT 4 requires >25K GPUs
- Optic’s share of *power dissipation is growing*
  - For 16K GPU clusters optics is consuming ~2MW – equivalent to 4K GPUs

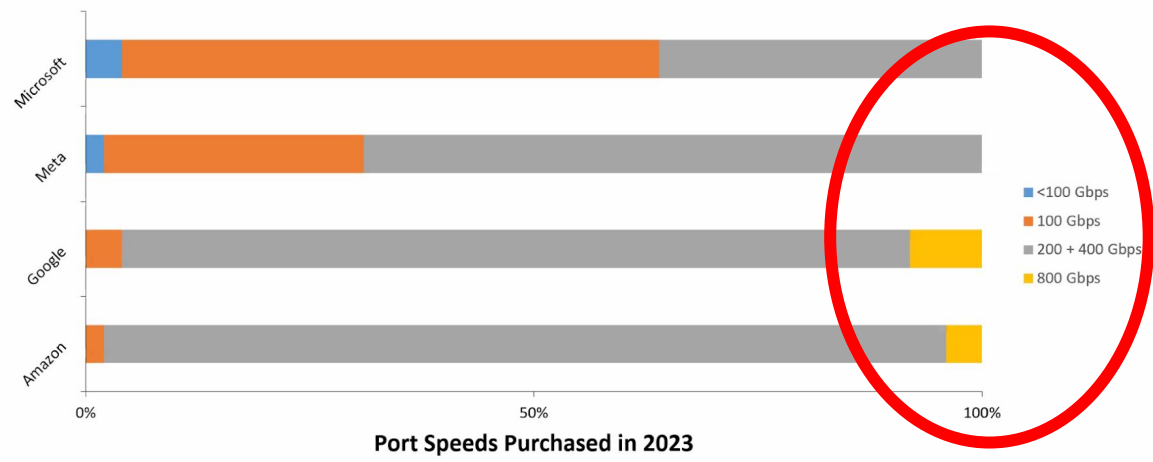


# Large spend on capex...but not on 800G yet

Ethernet Switch – Data Center:  
Total Market Revenue



Ethernet Switch – Data Center:  
Hyperscaler Speed Migration (2023)



400G still not superseded yet



A digital illustration of a server room. The room is filled with rows of server racks on both sides, receding into the distance. The floor and ceiling are dark, with glowing blue light panels on the ceiling. A network of white dots connected by thin lines is overlaid on the scene, representing data connections. A thick, glowing orange ribbon-like structure curves across the middle of the room, symbolizing data flow. The overall color palette is dark with blue and orange highlights.

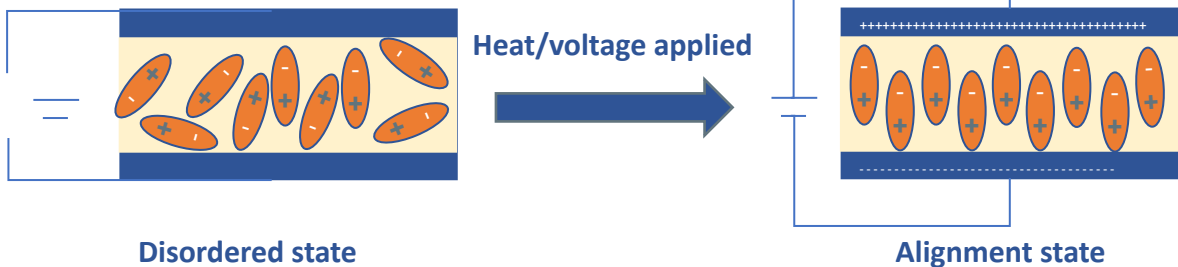
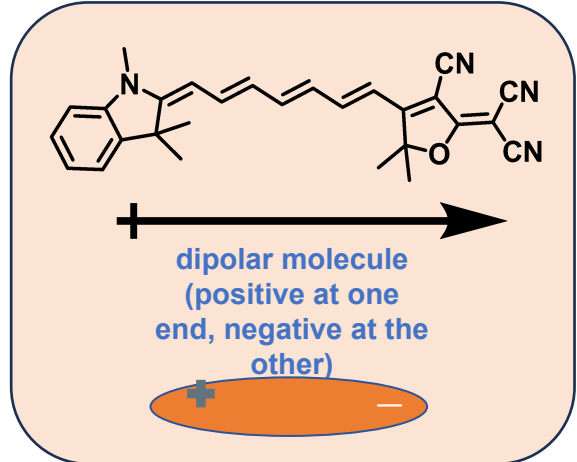
*What we do...*



# Perkinamine® Electro-Optic polymers

Our polymers are world-class and proven by third parties

Electro-optic polymers can be used to fabricate optical modulators



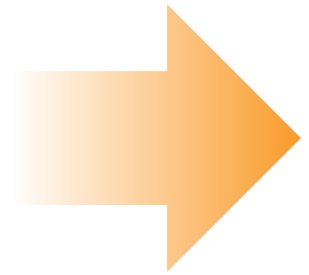
## We create organic chromophores...

- Designed, simulated and modeled in Denver, Colorado
- Manufacturing chemistry facility that can scale volume
- Deep experience with material characterization, testing, lifetime, and reliability

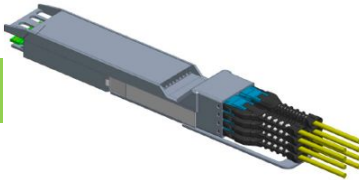


# Polymer modulator opportunities

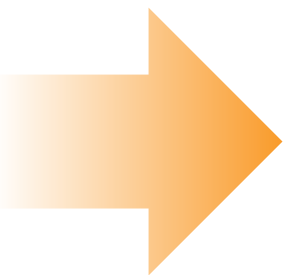
Electro-optic polymer modulators for transceivers suppliers



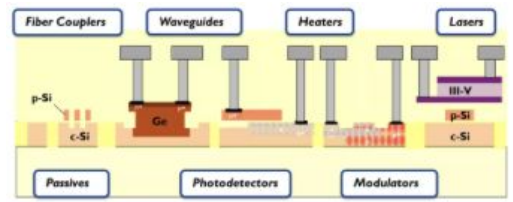
Upgrading to a 'V8'...



Electro-optic polymer modulators for Silicon Photonic platforms



'Turbo-boosting' SiPh...

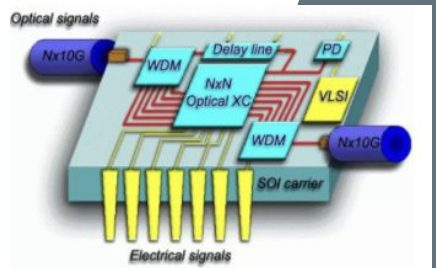


Source: ePIX Fab

Electro-optic polymer modulators for "Other" platforms including optical/quantum computing, HPC, and RF applications



Faster, lower power, smaller...



# E0 polymers *enable* higher performance data communications

Electro-optic polymer engines for fiber optic communications

Source: Ethernet Alliance, OSFP MSA, [https://www.researchgate.net/figure/Schematic-of-an-on-chip-optical-network-with-various-components-illustrated-including-ig2\\_239929876](https://www.researchgate.net/figure/Schematic-of-an-on-chip-optical-network-with-various-components-illustrated-including-ig2_239929876), ePIXfab, corning

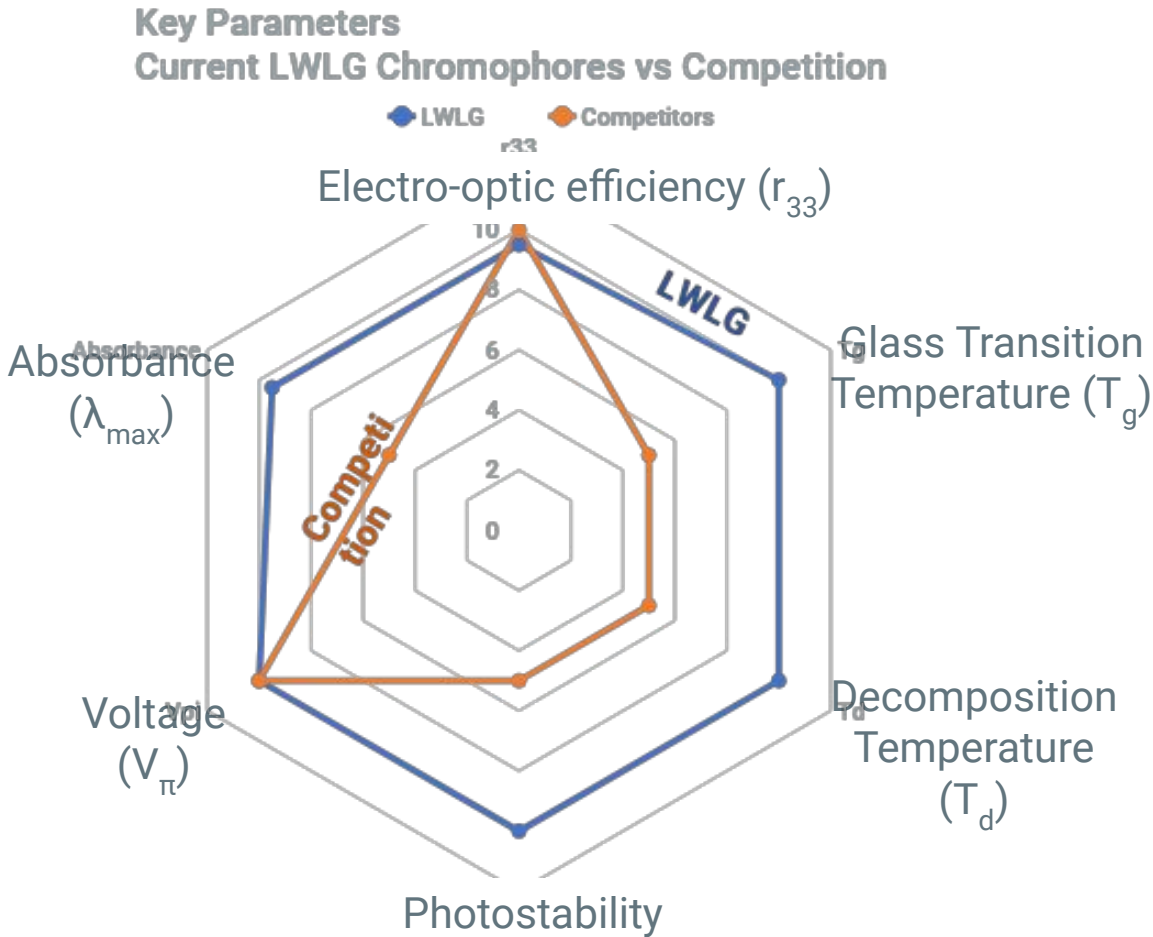
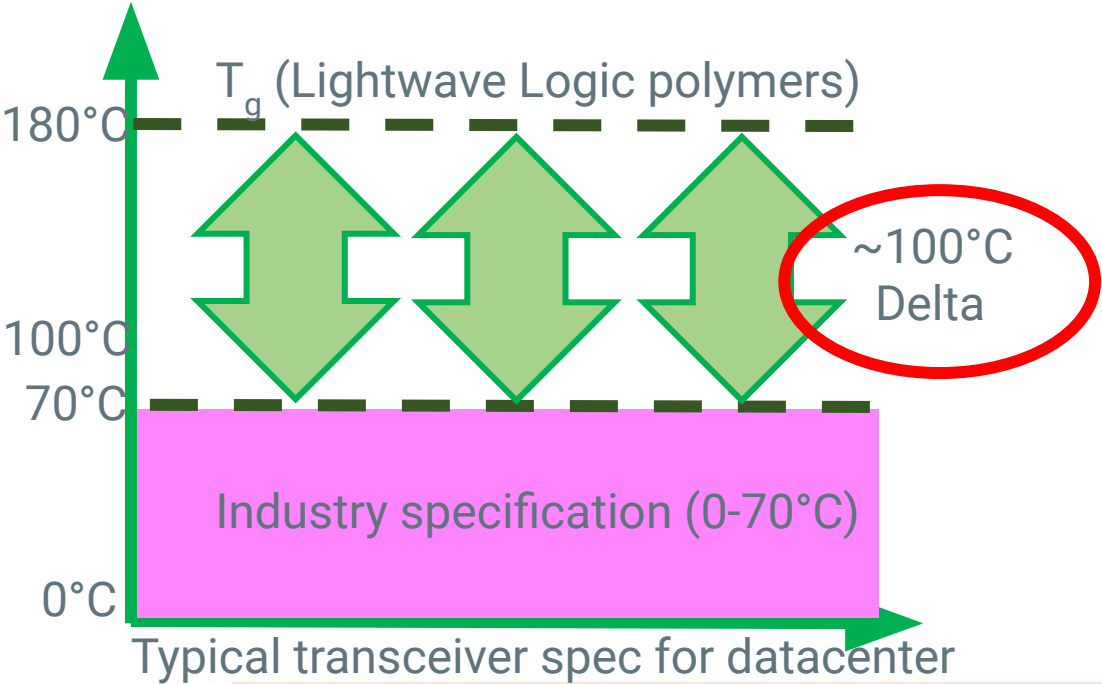
A digital server room with glowing orange lines and a network overlay. The scene is a perspective view of a long aisle between rows of server racks. The racks are dark grey with glowing blue lights. A network of white dots and lines is overlaid on the scene, and a thick, glowing orange ribbon-like structure curves across the aisle. The ceiling has a grid of blue lights.

*E0 Polymer material robustness...*



# Design philosophy: optimized reliability & performance

- **World class chromophore design**
  - Very high glass transition temperature ( $T_g$ ) □ increases EO material lifetime
  - $\sim 100^\circ\text{C}$  delta between industry spec and  $T_g$
  - Eliminates need for cross-linking
  - Protects material from de-poling (occurs when  $T_g$  is close to industry specification high limit)



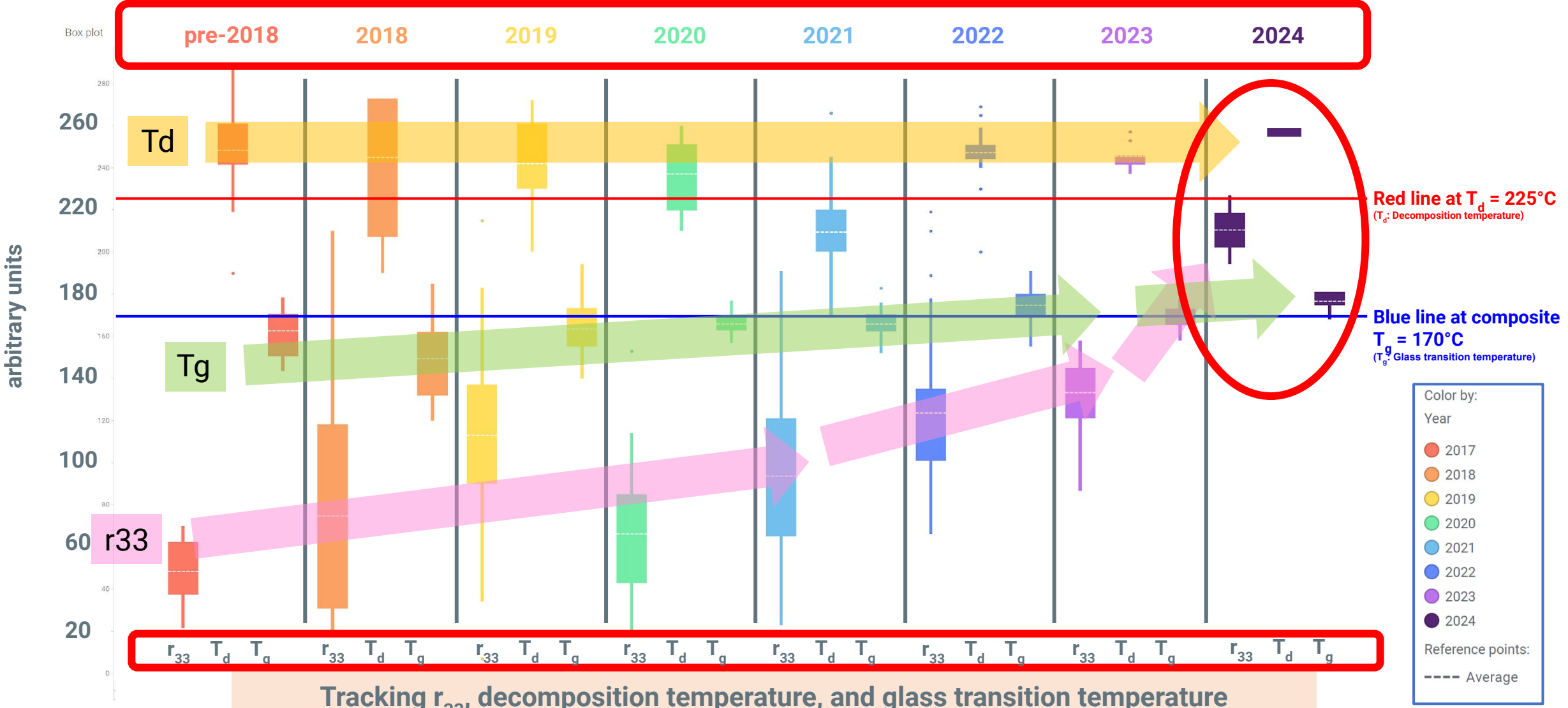
**Electro-optic material designed for reliability, stability, and overall operational performance**

NB: These are qualitative analyses only; i.e. on a scale of 1-10, how "good" is the material in terms of the particular parameter.

# LWLG EO polymer materials have significantly improved...



Box plot of Perkinamine®



Tracking  $r_{33}$ , decomposition temperature, and glass transition temperature

Color by:  
Year

- 2017
- 2018
- 2019
- 2020
- 2021
- 2022
- 2023
- 2024

Reference points:  
----- Average

A box plot or boxplot is a method for graphically demonstrating the locality, spread and skewness groups of numerical data through their quartiles

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*Silicon foundry compatible...*



# Polymers are ideal for silicon foundries...

Silicon Foundry Compatibility

High/Logical/simple

Low/Difficult

Low

High

Silicon Photonics (SiP) depletion mode Ring Resonator

Electro-optic polymers

Indium Phosphide (InP)

Lithium Niobate

Barium Titanate (BTO)

Thin Film Lithium Niobate (TFLN)

Electro-optic Polymer Plasmonics

Figure of Merit (low V, high bandwidth, small size, ease of PDK, fabrication)

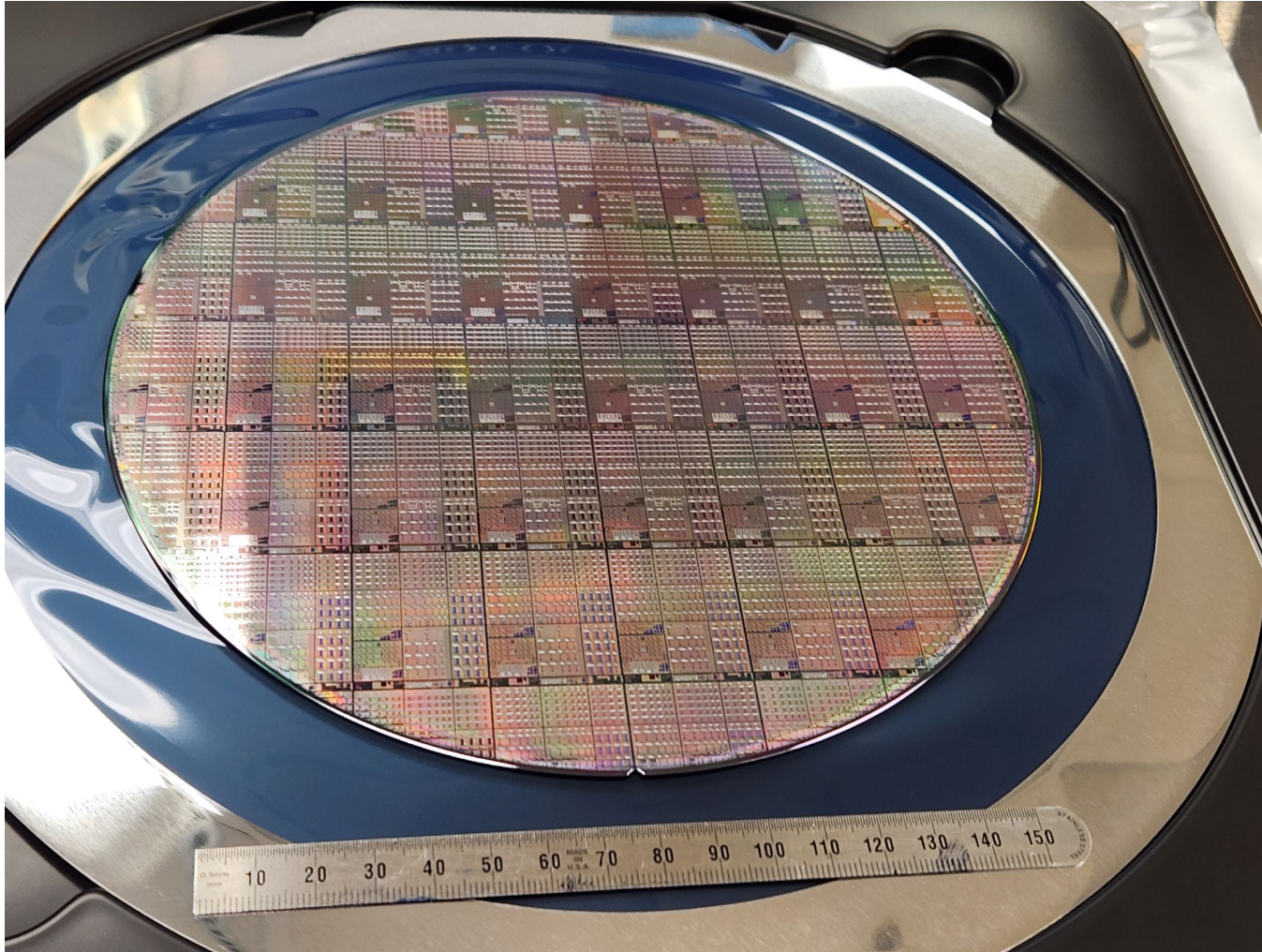
Polymer positioning for heterogeneous integration is aligns with silicon foundries very well



# Scalability with 200 mm Wafers



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Commercial Foundry

200 mm Wafer

Volume scale silicon slot designs on 200mm wafers

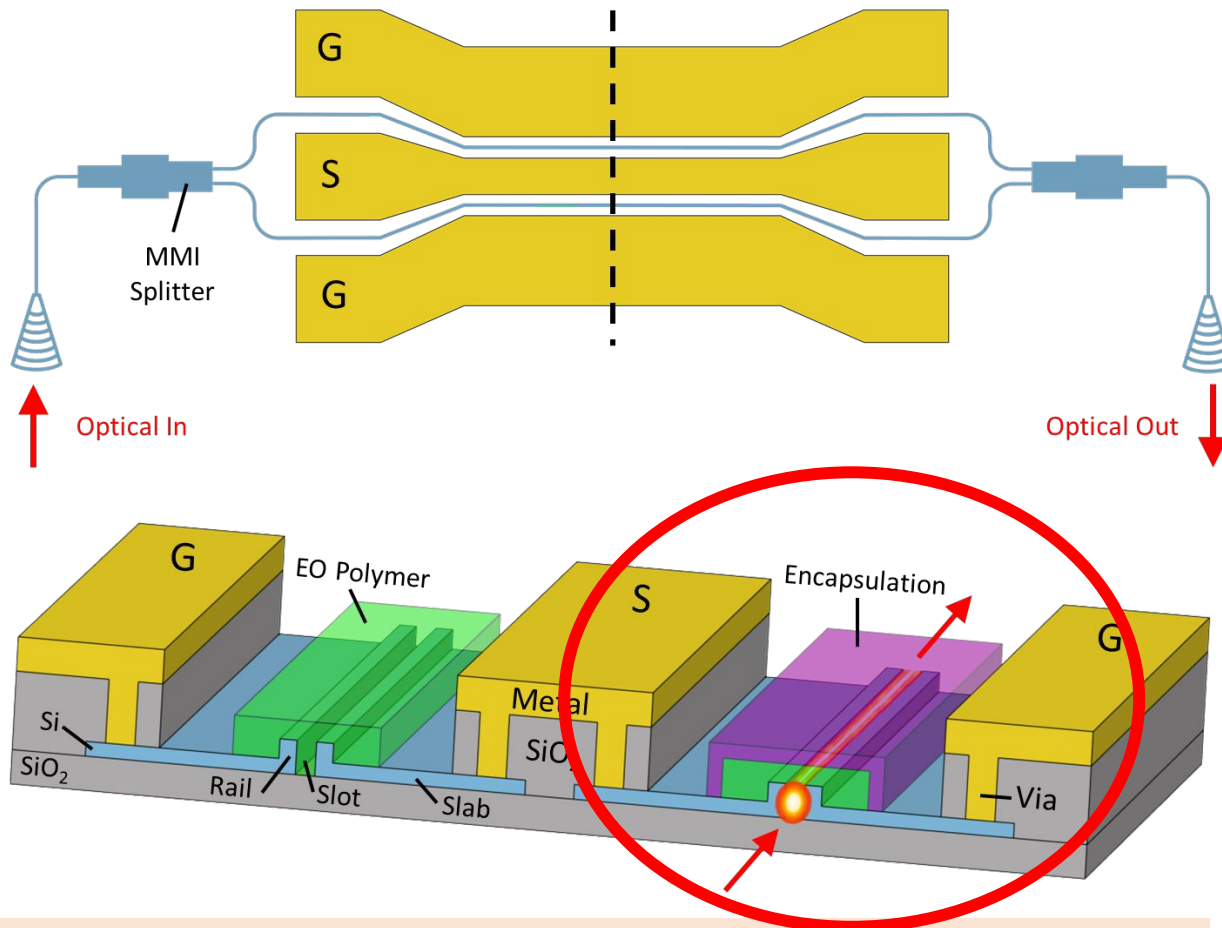
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*Integration of polymers with silicon...*



# Polymer Slot Modulator

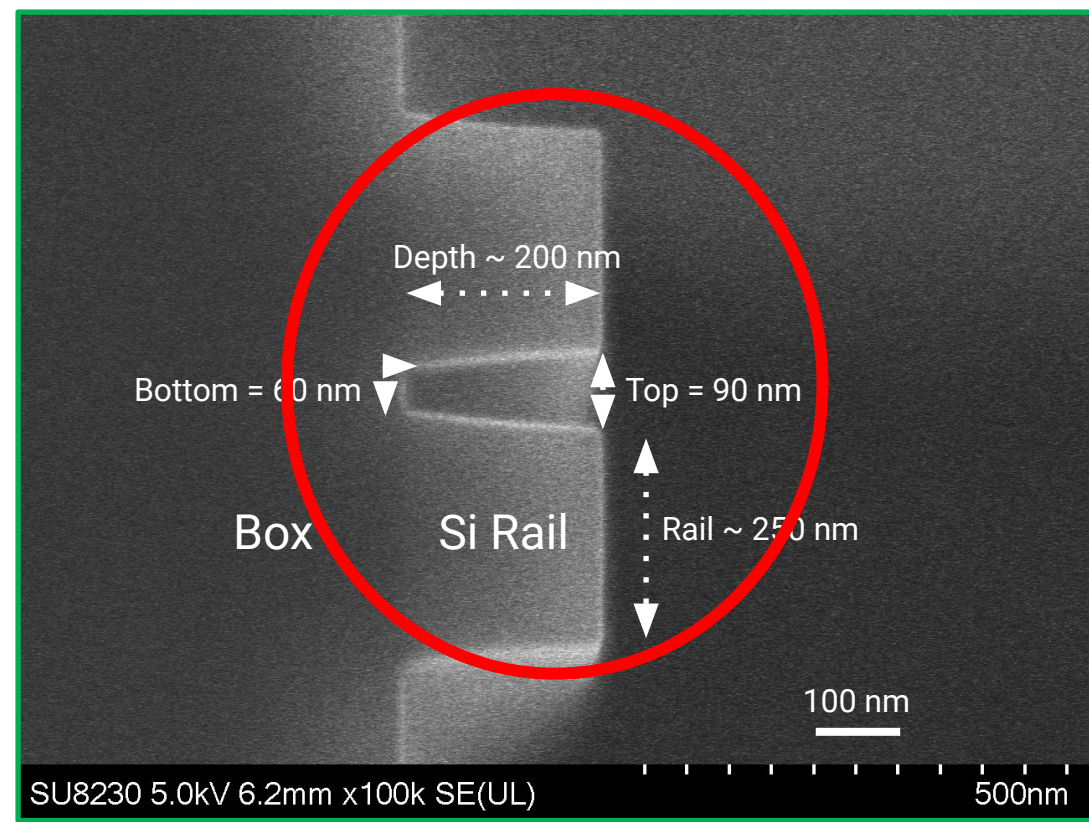
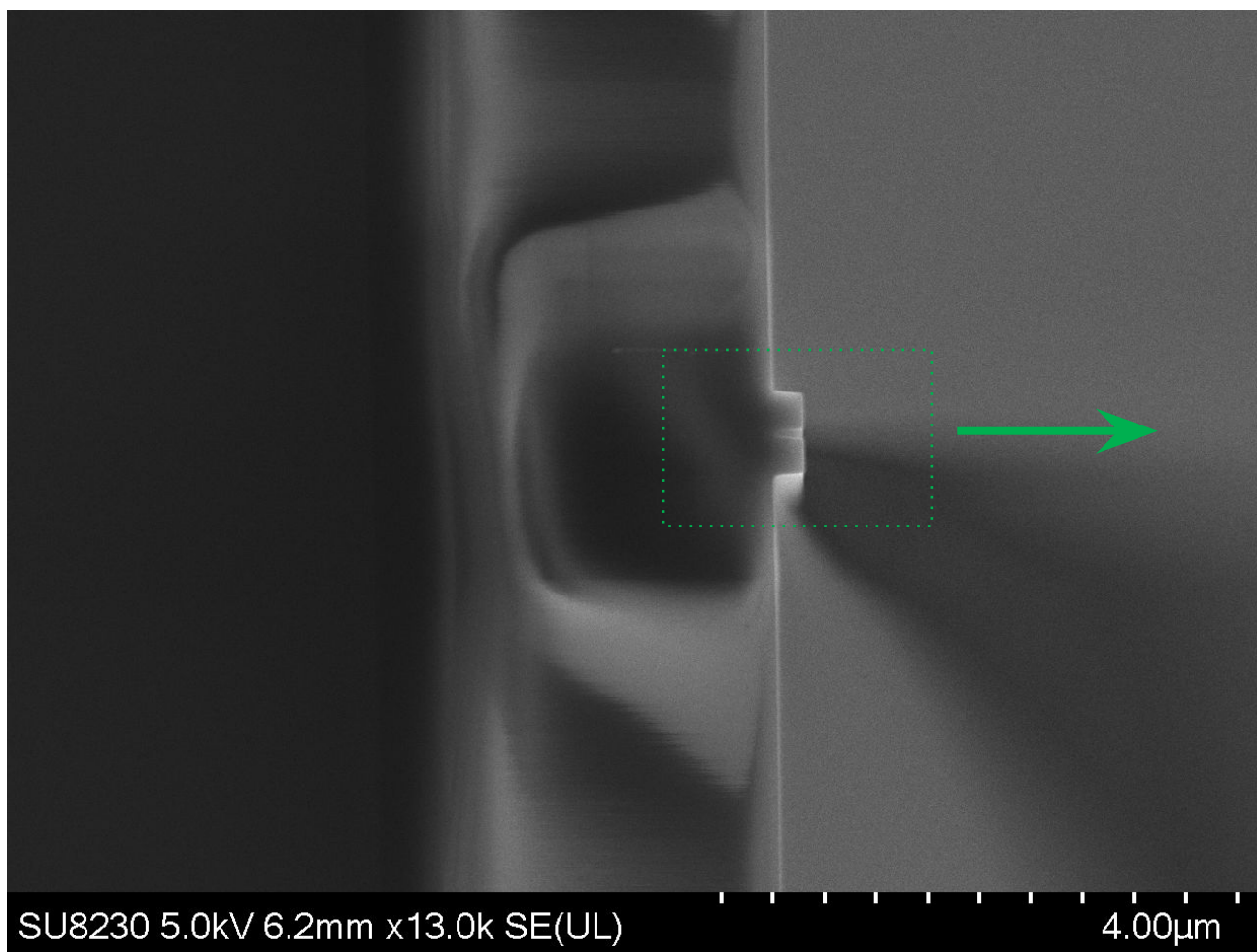
Our polymers are *easily fabricated* in silicon fabs □ ideal for heterogenous integration



EO polymer integration onto silicon slots and wafers

- Heterogeneous integration of polymer on Silicon Photonics Platform
- Low drive voltage and small form factor for low power consumption and high density
- Very high bandwidth (70-100GHz)

# Cross-section of fully etched slot waveguide



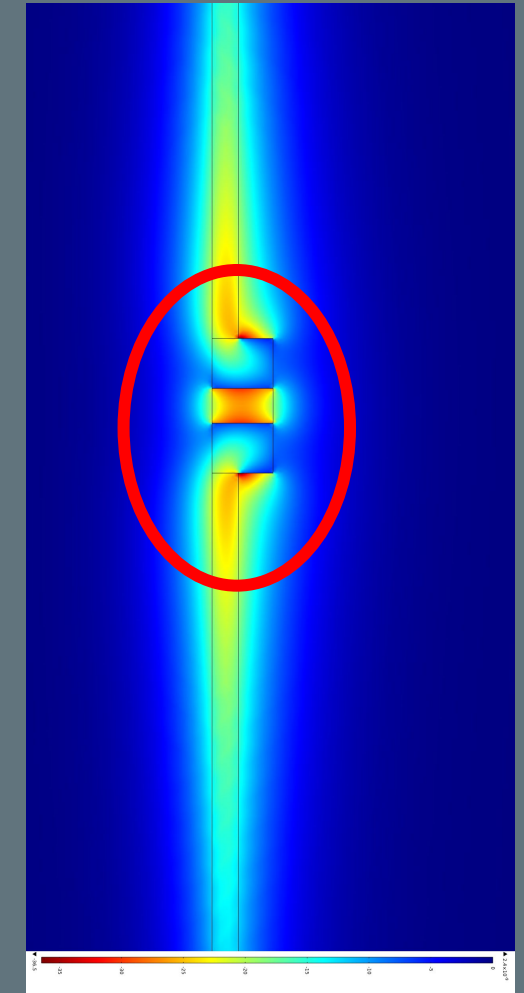
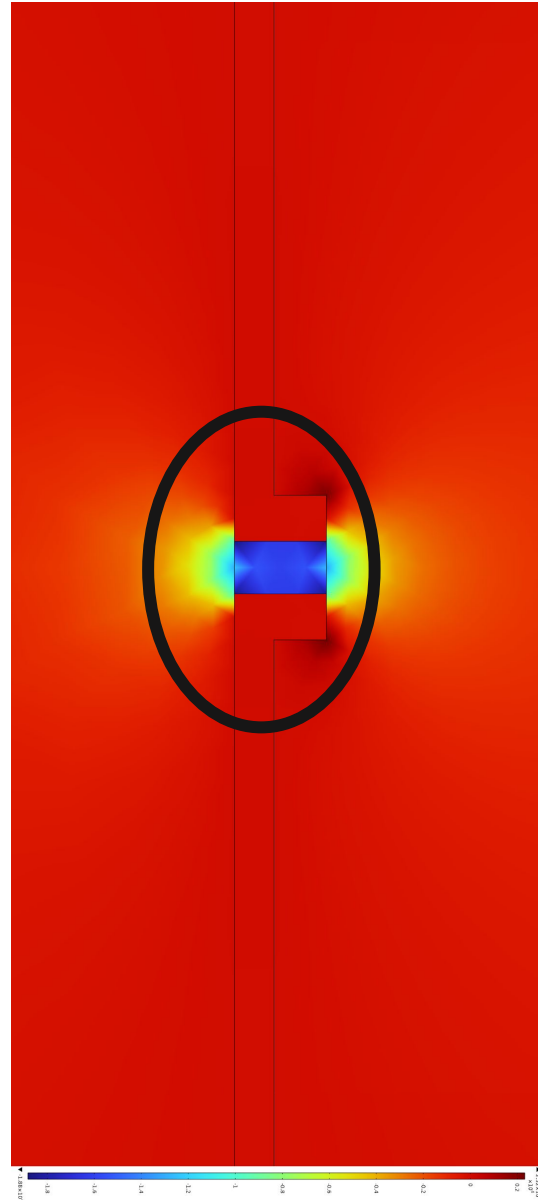
Clean, sharp silicon slots with width <math>< 100\text{ nm}</math>, sidewall angle >

# Modeling EO polymers and silicon slots



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E-field simulation



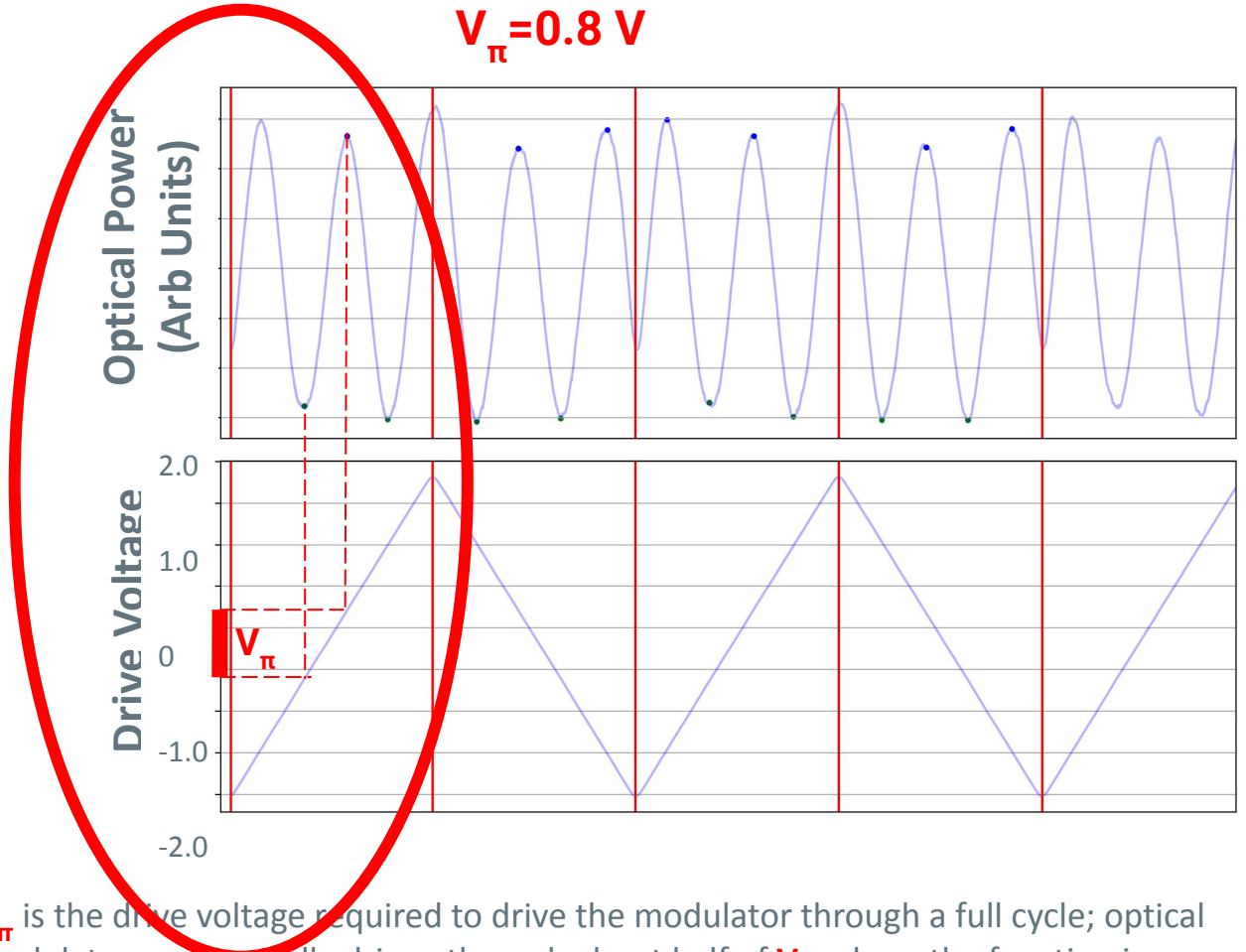
Optical mode simulation



# Low voltage drive polymer slot modulator

## Modulator Transmission Function

$$V_{\pi} = 0.8 \text{ V}$$



$V_{\pi}$  is the drive voltage required to drive the modulator through a full cycle; optical modulators are typically driven through about half of  $V_{\pi}$  where the function is linear

- Very low drive voltage (<1V)
- Can be directly driven from CMOS
- Fabricated onto

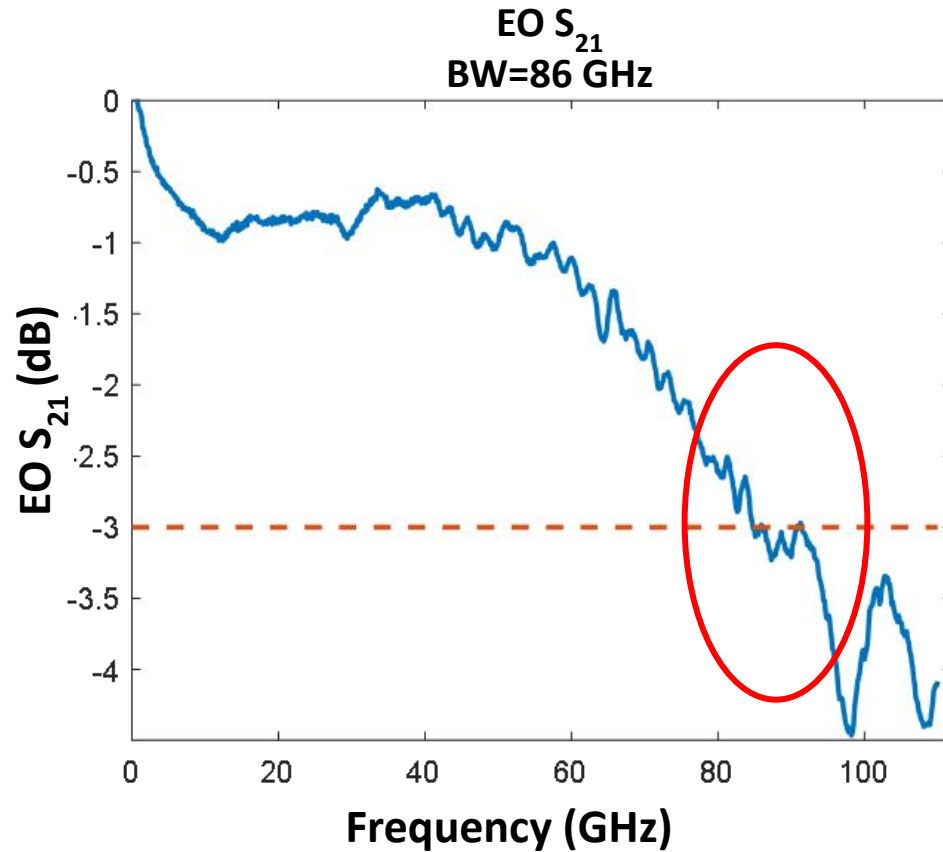
Designed for very low power consumption (<1W)

200mm silicon

# High BW MZ Polymer Slot™ Modulator



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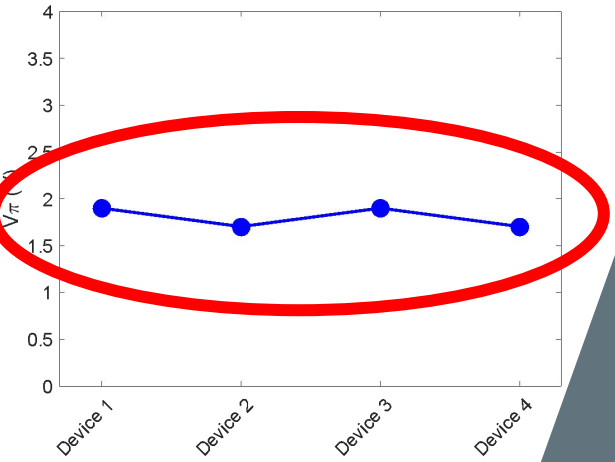
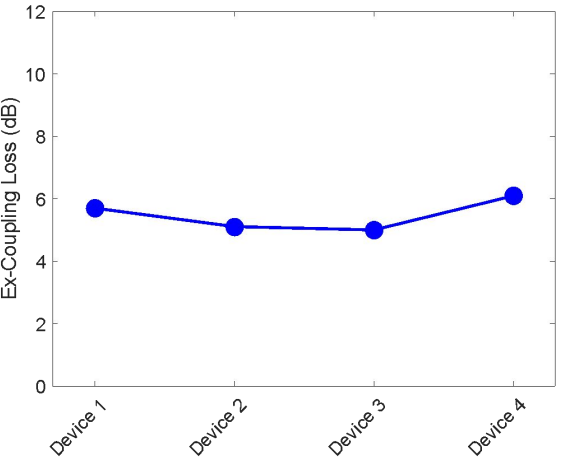
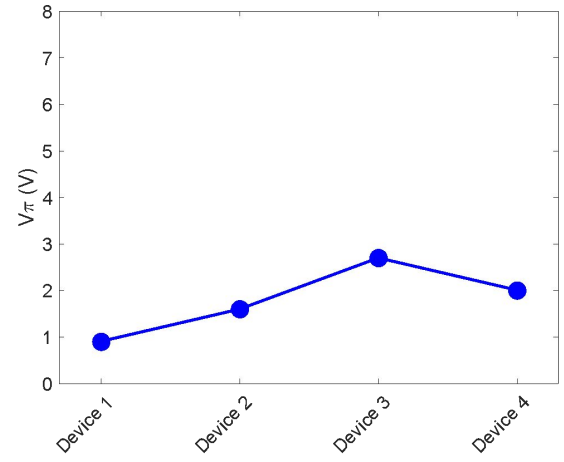
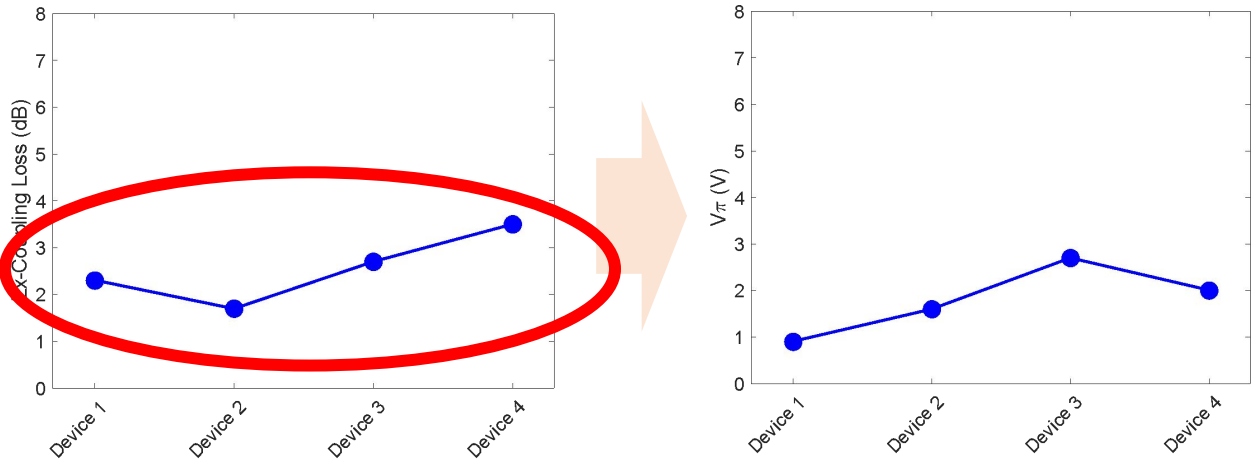
*EO Bandwidth=86 GHz*

EE Bandwidth > 110 GHz

Enables optical signaling  
for >200Gbps lanes



# Packaged slot modulator performance



- Uniform **low ex-coupling loss** across 4 packaged devices

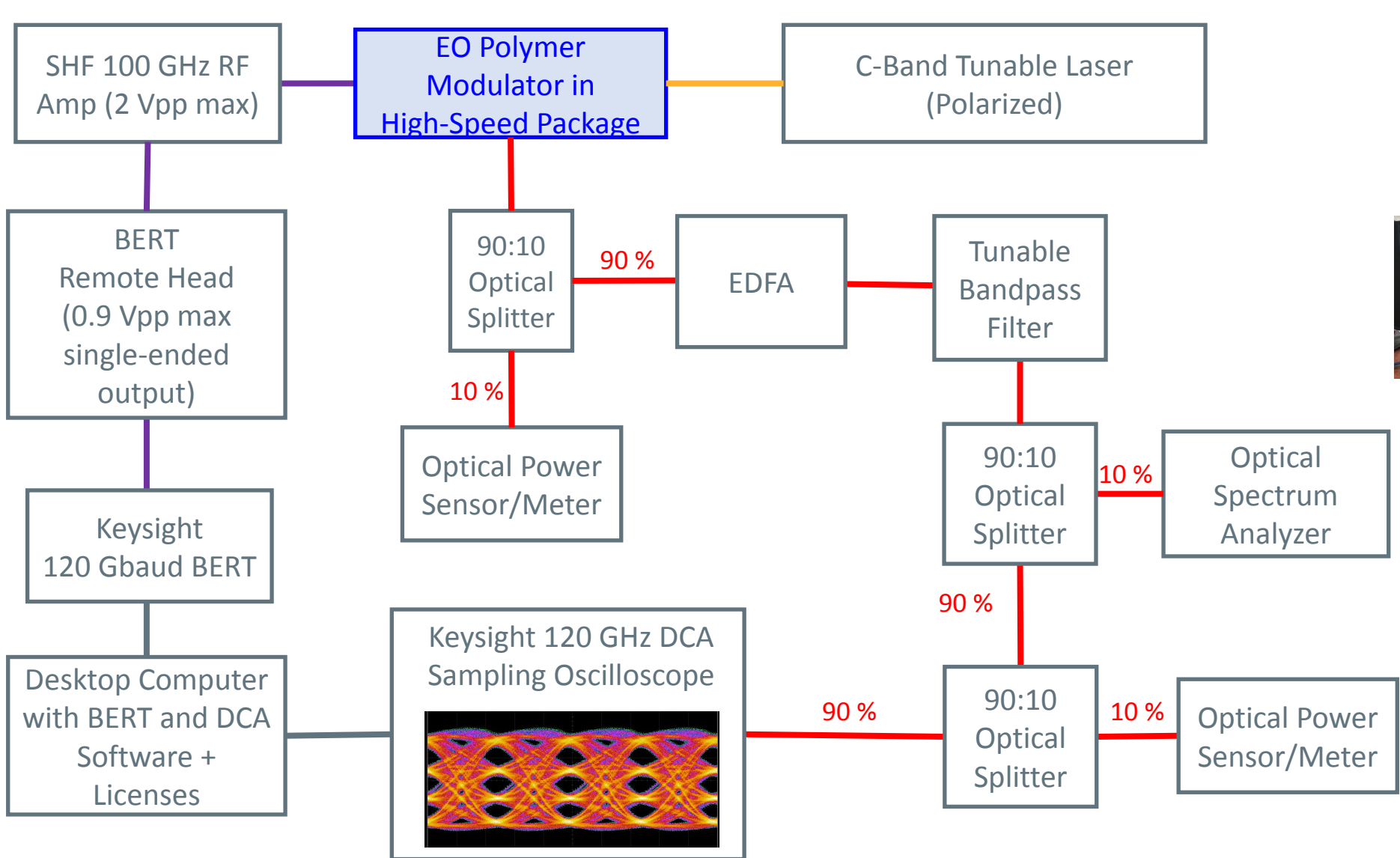
- Uniform **low V<sub>π</sub>** across 4 packaged device

Uniform ex-coupling loss and V<sub>π</sub> polymer performance

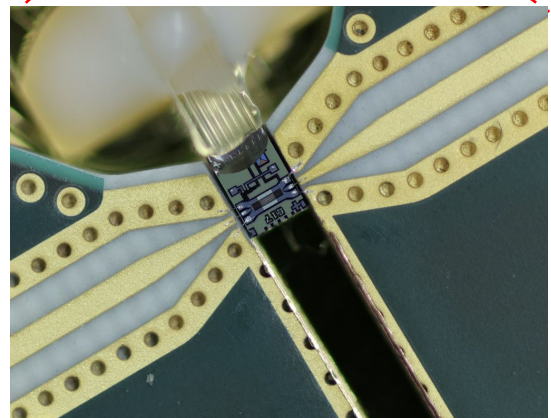
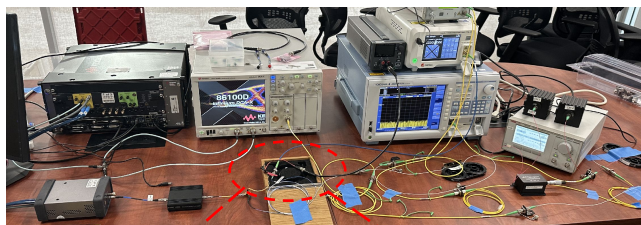




# Packaged polymer modulator demo schematic



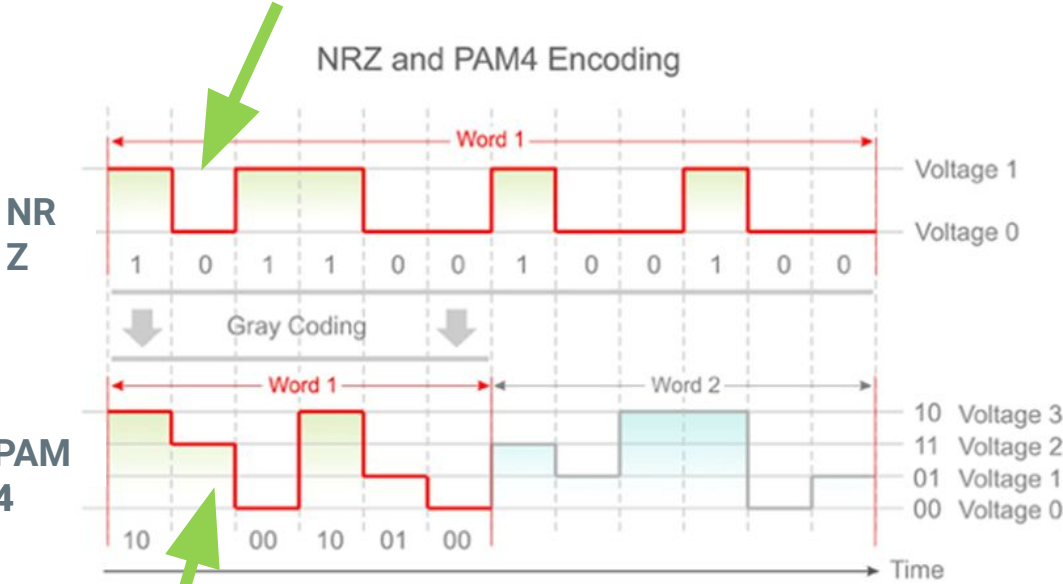
|  |            |
|--|------------|
|  | PM fiber   |
|  | SM fiber   |
|  | RF 110 GHz |





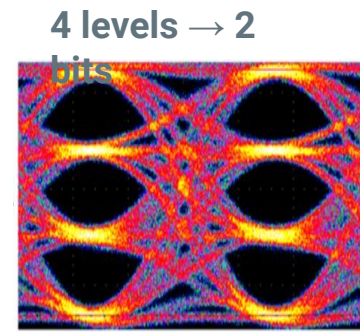
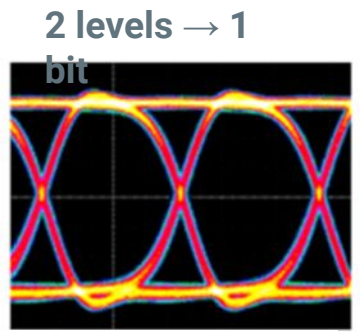
# Commercial Modulation and Eyes

NRZ = Non-return to Zero (i.e. castellated waveform)



PAM4 = Pulse Amplitude Modulation at 4 levels (step waveform)

Open eyes mean no errors



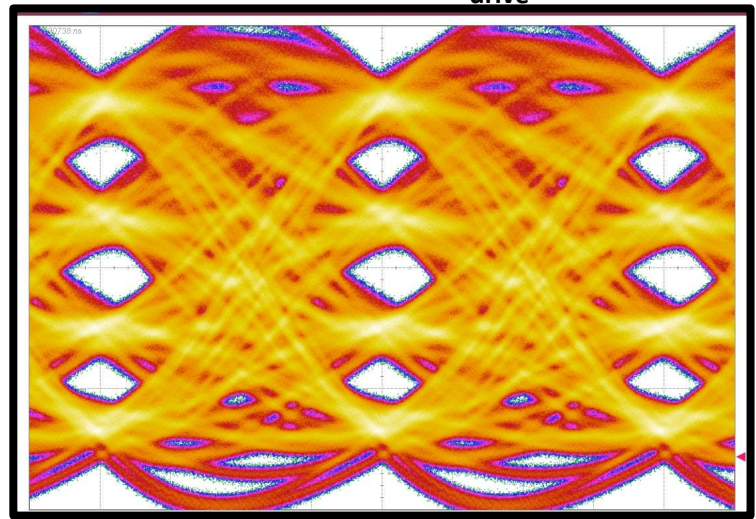
- Open Eyes mean high quality transmission and no errors
- For Same Bandwidth PAM4 as Double the Capacity
- Eyes show superposed traces for many sequential bits
- Show the levels and the transitions for any different data pattern, i.e. any different sequence of 1's and 0's

PAM4 has X2 the capacity for the same bandwidth

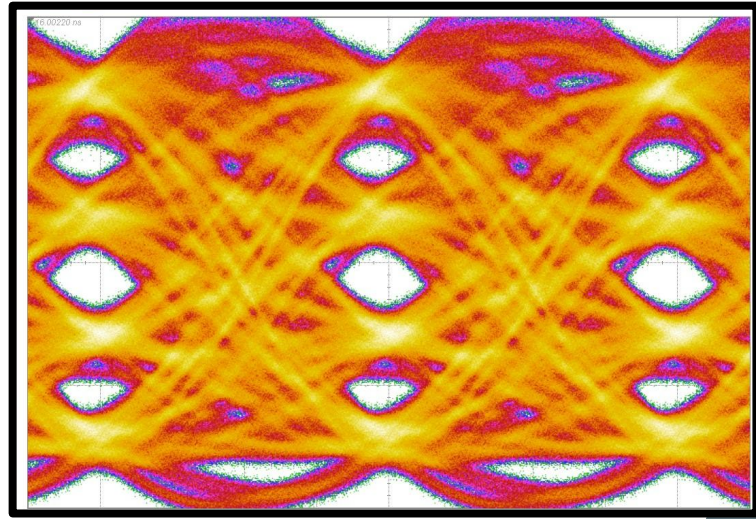


# World-class performance...

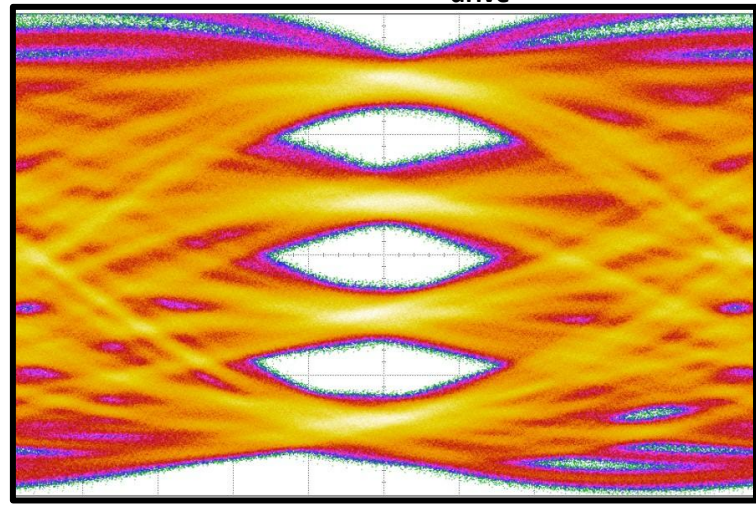
90 Gbaud, 180 Gbit/s,  $V_{drive} < 1 V$



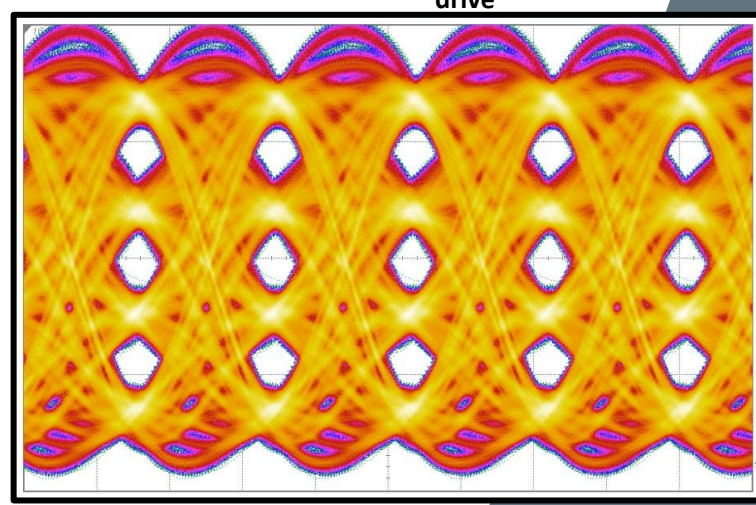
100 Gbaud, 200 Gbit/s,  $V_{drive} < 1 V$



53 Gbaud, 106 Gbit/s,  $V_{drive} < 1 V$



53 Gbaud, 106 Gbit/s,  $V_{drive} < 1 V$



Drive Voltage <1V

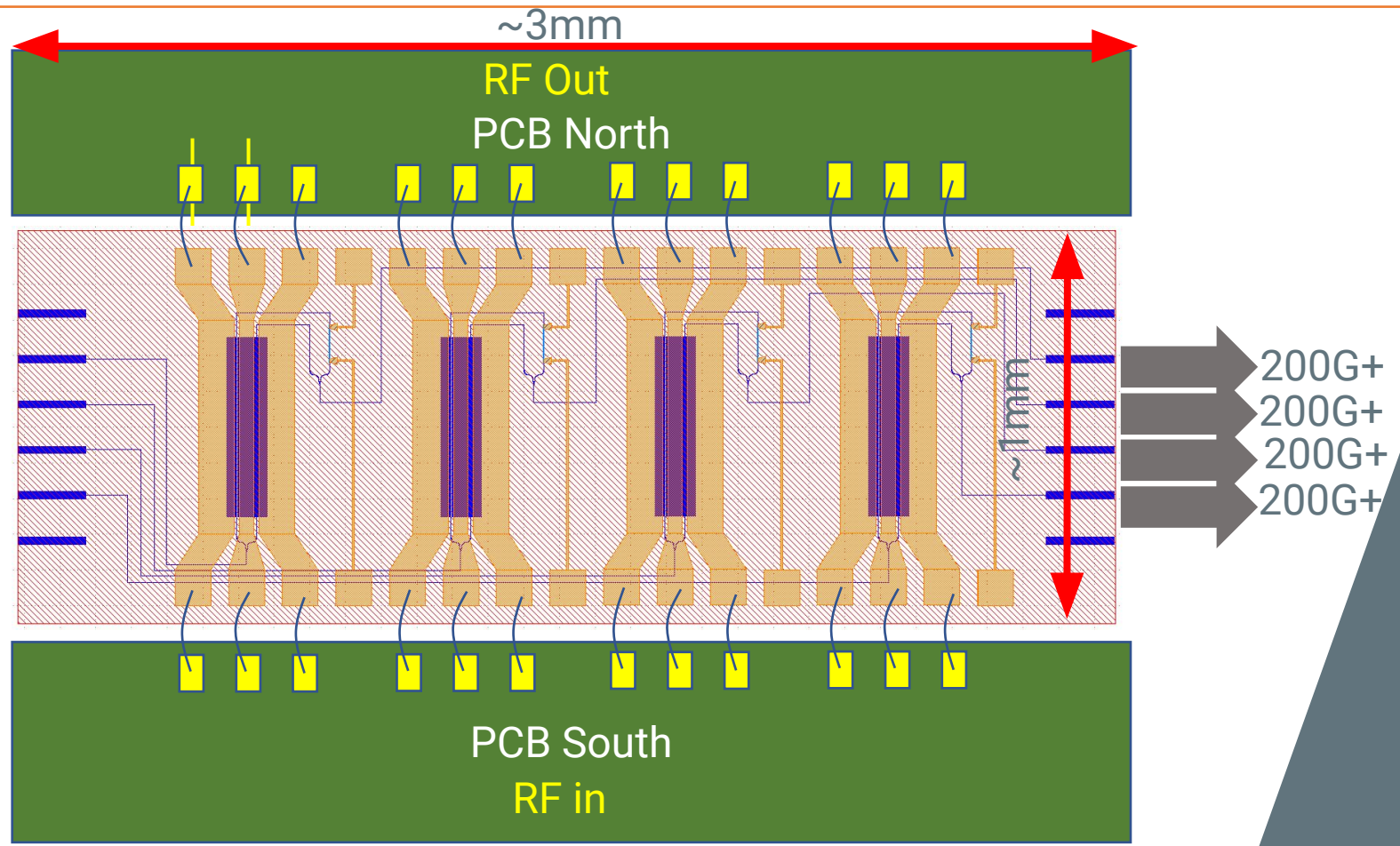
Up to 100GBaud PAM4  
(200Gbps)

Open eyes...

*Ideal for low voltage  
800Gbps 4 channel  
pluggable transceivers*



# Initial 4 channel layout for silicon P<sup>2</sup>IC™



In development □ 4 channel polymer PIC chip as part of our P<sup>2</sup>IC™ platform

Building block for parallel and WDM Tx P<sup>2</sup>IC

*Potential for 300G and even 400G per lane\**

- Optical 4 channel Polymer PIC layout with Mach Zehnder Interferometers (MZI) arrays
- Electrical CPW transmission length ~1mm

\*Using EO S21 3dB bandwidths in excess of 130GHz, with the potential for >250GHz

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*3rd party verification...*

# 3<sup>rd</sup> party use of Perkinamine® LWLG polymers

- 400G lanes = next generation node for datacenters
- *World class performance EO polymers used for 400G lanes*
- Potential for 4 channel x 400Gbps pluggable transceiver at 1.6Tbps (1600Gbps) & 8 Channel at 3.2Tbps

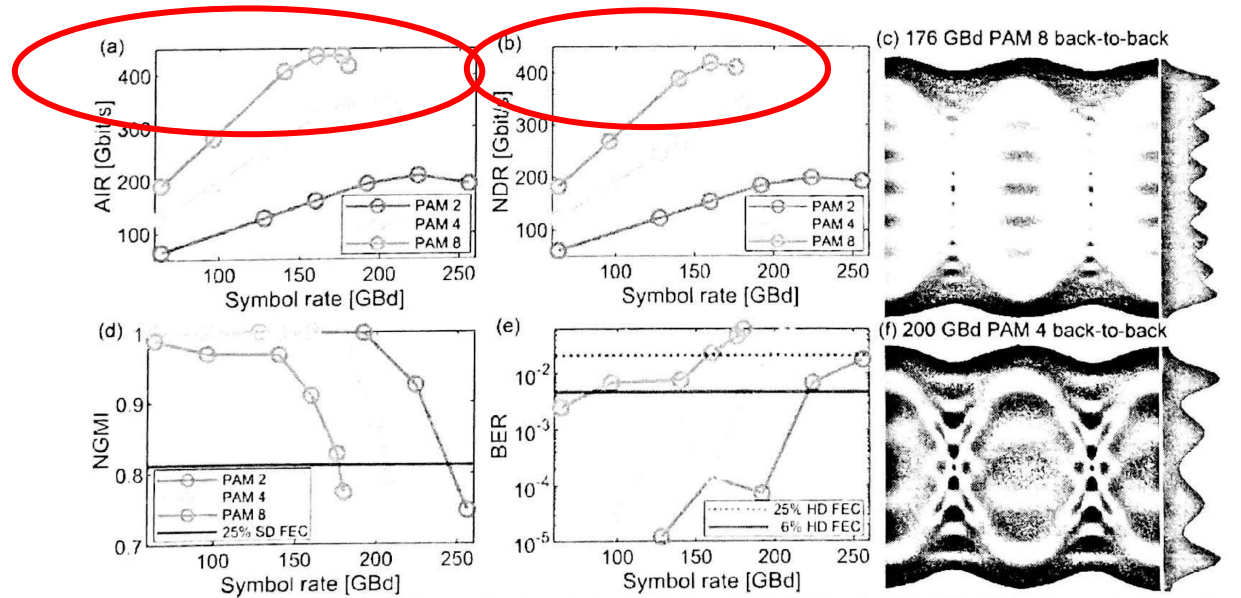


Fig. 2 Back-to-back experimental results are split into 6 subplots (a-d) respectively detailing the achievable information rate (AIR), net-data rate (NDR), normalized general mutual information (NGMI) as well as bit-error rate (BER) for the back-to-back measurements (e-f) Showing the achieved eye-diagrams for the 176 GBd PAM 8 signal reaching the highest AIR and the 200 GBd PAM 4 signal

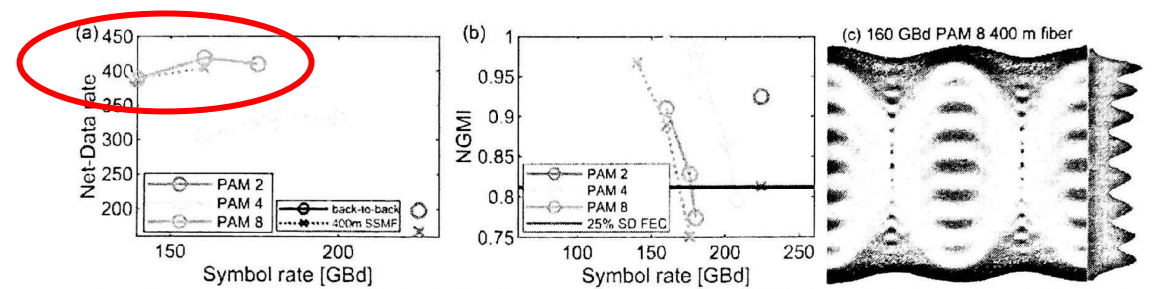


Fig. 3 Comparison between back-to-back and 400 m fiber transmission is detailed in (a & b). Respectively showing the net-data rate and normalized general information (NGMI) for the back-to-back (solid lines) as well as the 400 m fiber transmission (dashed lines). (c) Showing the achieved eye-diagrams for the 160 GBd PAM 8 signal reaching the highest data rate after fiber transmission of 404.5 Gbit/s.

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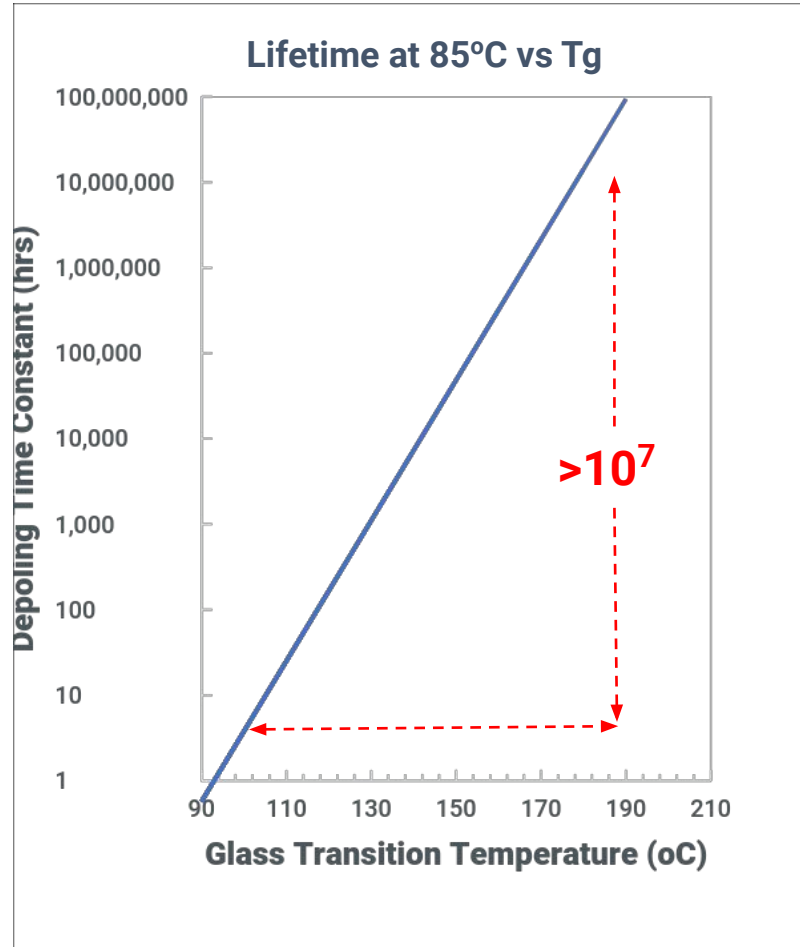
*Reliability*

# How important is glass transition temperature ( $T_g$ )?



The thermal lifetime of an EO-polymer against thermally induced depoling material at 85°C will **increase** with increasing  $T_g$

The lifetime at 85°C for a polymer with  $T_g = 180^\circ\text{C}$  is  **$>10^7$  times greater than** that lifetime for one with  $T_g = 100^\circ\text{C}$



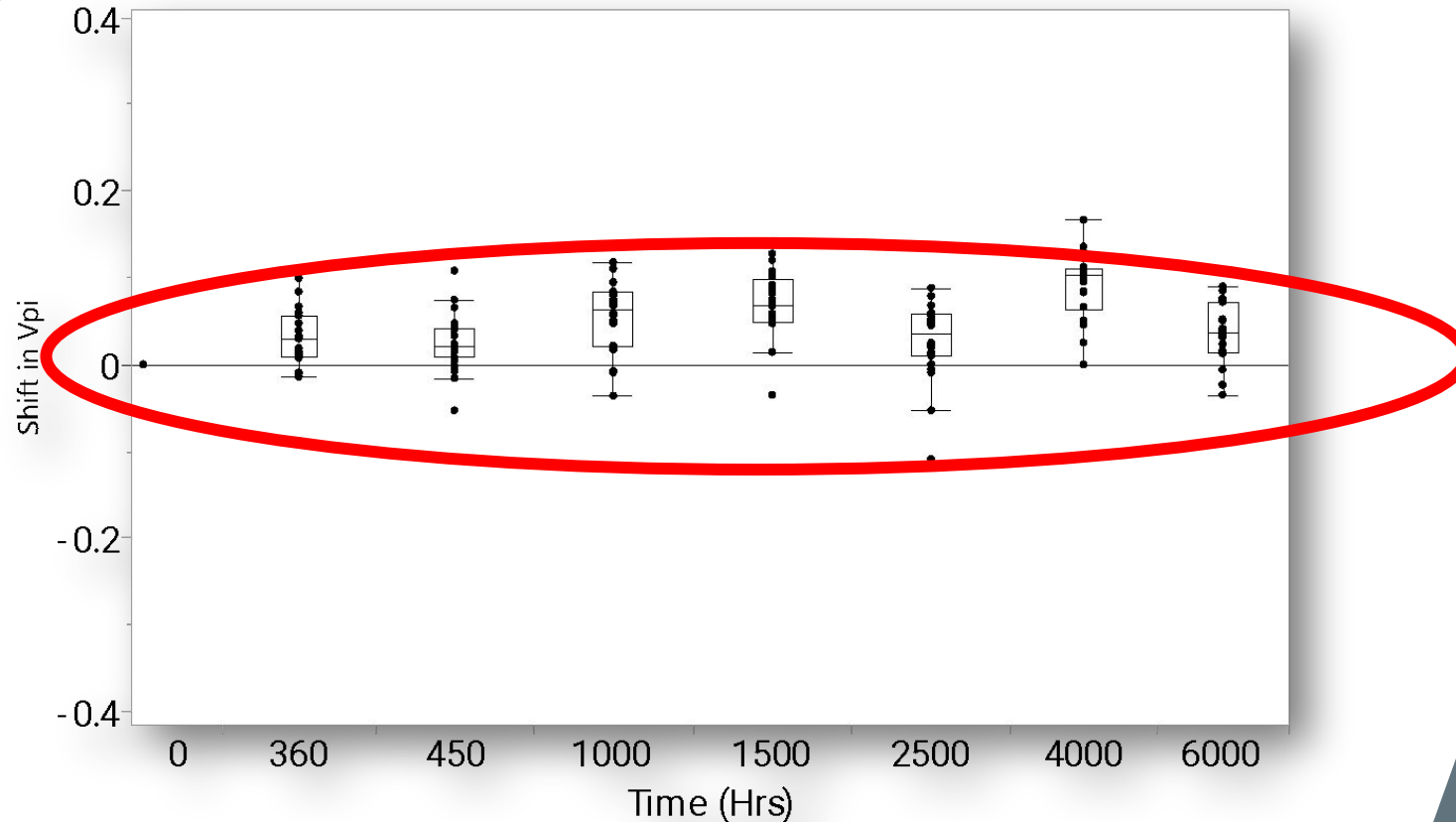
After Organic Electro-Optics and Photonics by Dalton, Gunter, Jazbinesek, Kwon and Sullivan

**Design for Reliability:**  
*Increasing  $T_g$  means much higher lifetime in electro-optic materials*





# Modulator Thermal Stability (TS)



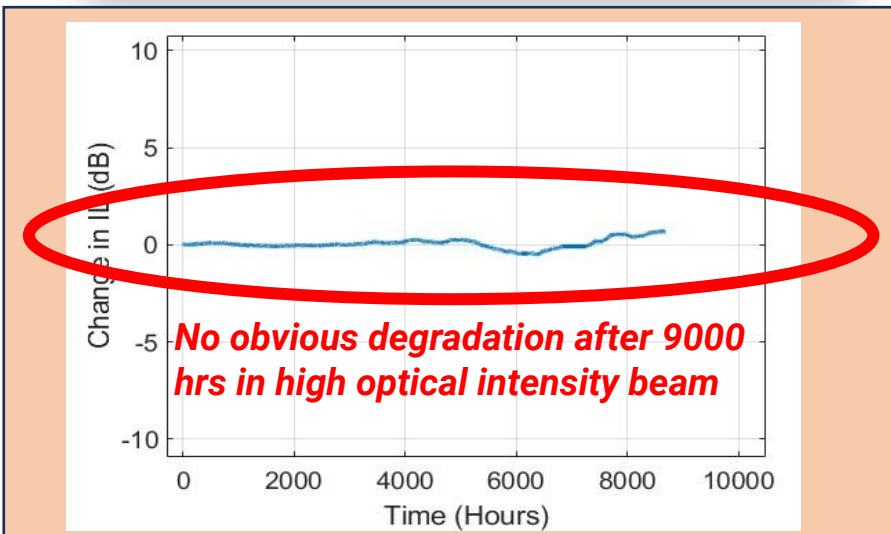
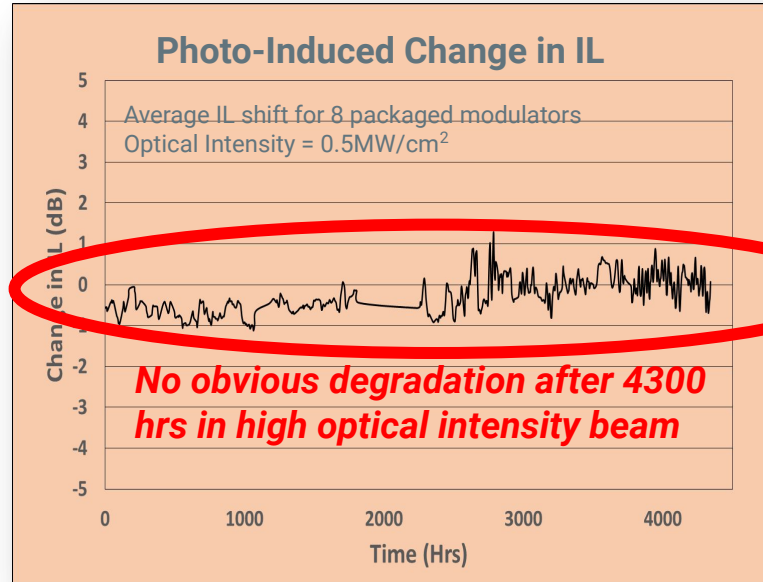
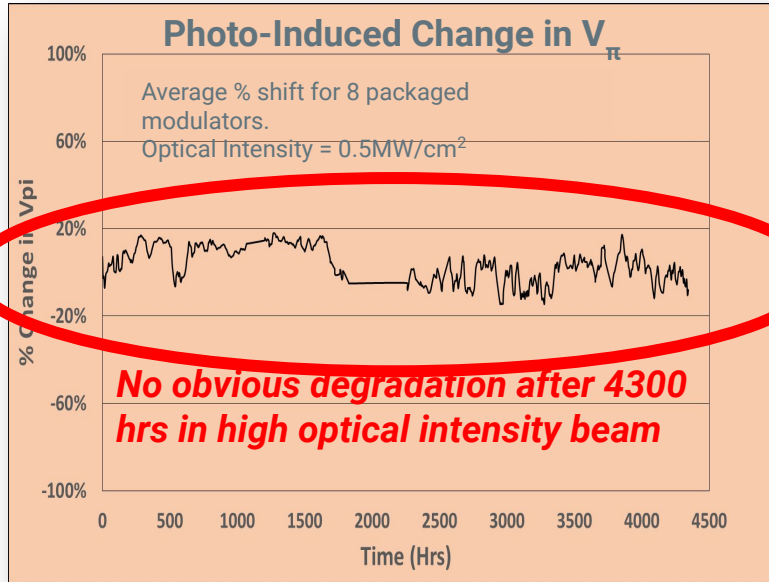
- The  $V_{\pi}$  on 20 modulators is stable over 6000hrs.
- The average shift over ~ 6000hours is 1.2% and it is within the margin of error of the test setup.

Modulator  $V_{\pi}$  stable after 6000 hrs

# Photostability vs Voltage and Insertion Loss



LIGHTWAVE LOGIC®



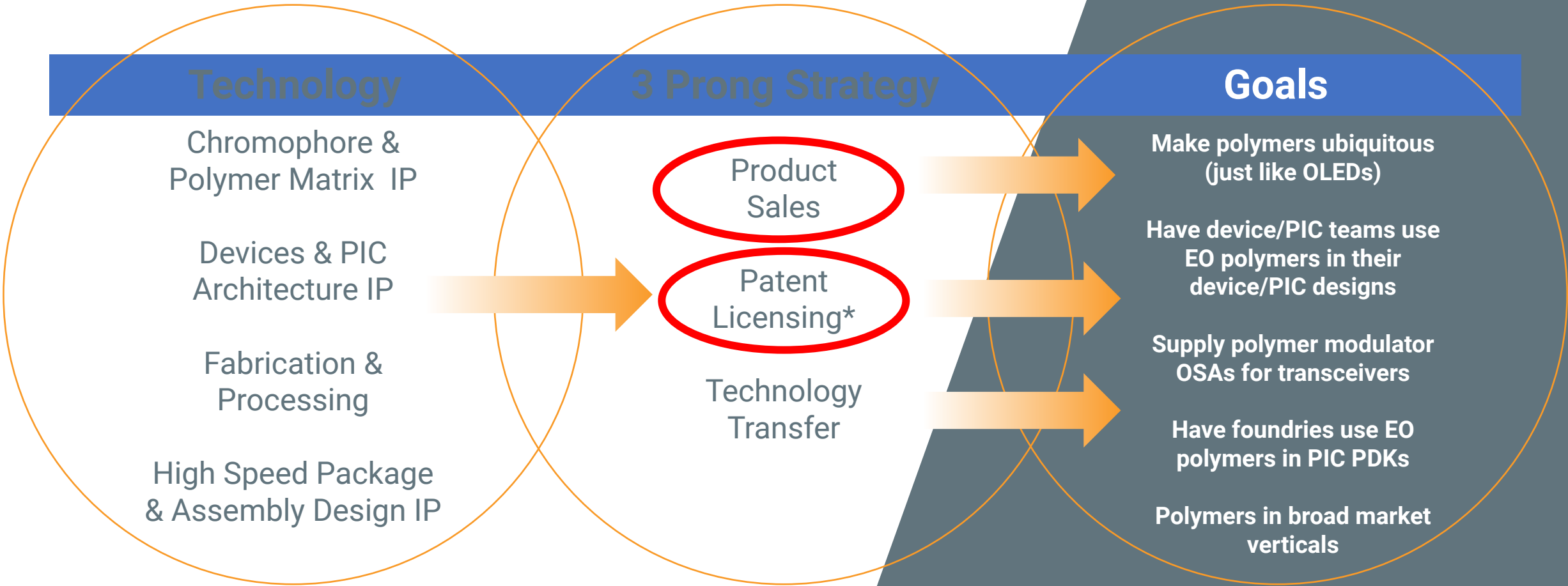
Long and short-term photostability *does not seem to be an issue* with LWLG E0 chromophores when protected from  $\text{O}_2$

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*Our business model is innovative...*

# Implementing a new technology platform...

## Licensing model provides inherent scalability



\*1st commercial material supply license agreement 2Q23 □ market acceptance

# Heterogeneous integration takeaways...

- Our heterogeneous polymer/silicon platform is poised to *become ubiquitous* (just like OLED polymer material)
- We are open *to license our material*, do technology transfer, and to leverage your position in the market-place...
- EO polymers continue to show technical progress with *polymer reliability and stability...200G lanes* and performance head-room to go 400G lanes and more...

**Marketing Contact:**

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*Faster by Design*

*Thank you for listening*

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# 3<sup>rd</sup> party use of Perkinamine® LWLG polymers



- **EO polymer** used in different device designs
- Silicon slot, plasmonic slot, plasmonic ring resonator
- All produced **world class** results\*
- Presentations at **industry** conferences

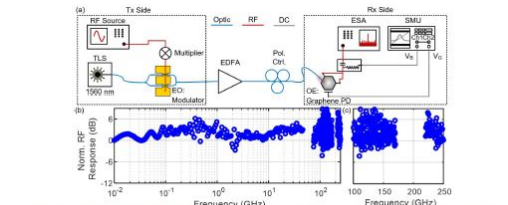
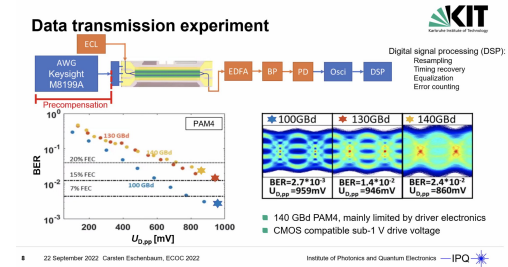
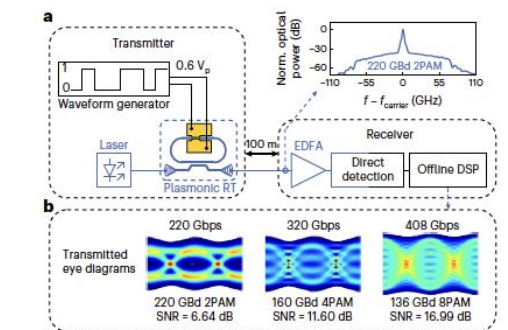
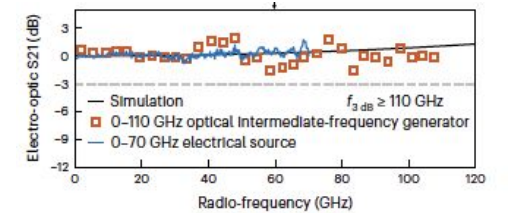


Fig. 3: Plasmonic-to-plasmonic EOE bandwidth. (a) Schematic of the setup to characterize the combined EOE bandwidth of the plasmonic racetrack modulator linked to the metamaterial graphene PD. (b) Measured normalized RF response of the system showing an EOE bandwidth of 250 GHz and (c) the response visualized from 100 to 250 GHz on a linear scale.



Sources\*: KIT, SilOrIX, EU Horizon 2020, ETH Zurich, Polariton, CAU University Kiel (post deadline paper published at ECOC2022 using LWLG EO polymers)

Sources\*: Nature Photonics: Resonant plasmonic micro-racetrack modulators with high bandwidth and high temperature tolerance (ETH Zurich, Polariton and LWLG EO polymer material)

A digital server room with glowing orange data lines and a 'BACK UP' text overlay. The background features a perspective view of server racks in a dark, futuristic environment. A network of glowing orange lines and nodes is overlaid on the scene, suggesting data flow and connectivity. A prominent, thick, wavy orange line curves across the middle of the image. In the center, a dark grey horizontal bar contains the text 'BACK UP' in white, italicized, uppercase letters.

*BACK UP*